GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3313
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
COW SLAUGHTER
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY;RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA;RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA;YOGI ADITYANATH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that cow-slaughtering is increasing in the country day-by-day;

(b) if so, whether at present there are nearly as 3600 abbatoirs in the country where cow slaughtering takes place;

(c) if so, the position of meat exported during the last three years;

(d) whether some of the Indian species of cow are at the verge of extinction due to bovine slaughter in the country;

(e) if so, whether the Government are considering to bring a legislation in this regard with a view to check cow slaughtering;

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): No Sir.

(b): There are at present 2733 registered and 5038 unregistered abbatoires in the country which are administered by the State Government. Slaughter of cow is banned by legislation by states except West Bengal, Kerala and Manipur.

(c): There is a complete ban on export of beef as per the EXIM policy. The meat other than beef exported by the Ministry of Commerce through APEDA during the last three years are as under:-

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001(MT)
Buffaloe Meat	153956.15	167291.41	288027.84
Sheep & Goat Meat	8648.45	12419.44	11902.85
Poultry Product	7390.89	836793.00	15836.12
Animal Casings	382.06	352.65	573.70
Processed Meat	297.96	815.77	130.69

(d): Some of the native breeds are on the verge of extinction. However, extinction of breeds is a global phenomenon which occurs due to changes in farming practices and socio-economic preferences and the bovine slaughter is not the sole reason for such extinction.

(e): Under the distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States as enjoined by Article 246 (3) of the Constitution, preservation of cattle is a matter on which the Legislature of the State has exclusive powers to legislate.

(f) & (g): Question does not arise.